

**ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE**

The present invention is directed at a method and system for upgrading existing firmware on third party hardware. The system initially receives identification information along with a firmware version indicator from the third party hardware. The identification information is then used to obtain a stored firmware version indicator representing the expected version of firmware which the third party hardware should be executing. The two firmware version indicators are compared and if they differ, an upgrade to the existing firmware is required. The system then retrieves the upgrade firmware from a remote location. The upgrade firmware is then stored in the third party hardware.

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